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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/987,418	11/14/2001	Ryu Inada	111121	7037
25944	7590	07/01/2005	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			VU, THONG H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2142	

DATE MAILED: 07/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/987,418

Applicant(s)

INADA ET AL.

Examiner

Thong H. Vu

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-11,15-18 and 20-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-6,8-11,15-18 and 20-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

1. Claims 1-2,46,8-11,15-18,20-28 are pending.
2. Claims 3,7,12-14 and 19 are canceled.
3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2,46,8-11,15-18,20-28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-2,4,8-11,15-18,20-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hwang [6,839,879 B1].

4. As per claim 1, Hwang discloses an apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate [Hwang, subject name, col 5 lines 37-50; certificate for single user, col 4 lines 66-col 5 line7], comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal certificate [Hwang, certificate for single user, col 4 lines 66-col 5 line7];

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique [Hwang, authentication, digital certificate, verifying the authenticity of the document, certificate ID, col 3 line 10-col 4 lines 12-30];

an extracting part that extracts at least one of predetermined elements in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate [Hwang, a dialog box used to obtain document parameters, select a desired document from the chronologically sorted list of records, col 5 line 14-col 6 line 52, Fig 4A-B]; and

a determination part that determines an access right of holder of the personal certificate based on a value of the at least one predetermined element when the personal certificate is successfully verified [Hwang, based on the security levels and document manager can certify the document, col 5 lines 1-8; col 6 lines 3-10];

wherein the predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a project [Hwang, a particular project, col 5 lines 37-50].

5. Claims 15,17 contain the similar limitations set forth of apparatus claim 1. Therefore, claims 15,17 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claim 1.

6. As per claim 2, Hwang discloses the at least one of the predetermined elements is an organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy (i.e.: chronologically order) of the subject name [Hwang, organization, col 1 lines 43-60; agency, col 6 lines 3-10; chronologically order, col 6 lines 42-52].

7. As per claim 21,27 Hwang discloses the predetermined elements further include an element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the

holder of the personal certificate [Hwang, the threads have names that reflect a theme common to the linked documents, col 5 lines 50-67].

8. As per claim 4, Hwang discloses a web server computer system comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal certificate [Hwang, certificate for single user, col 4 lines 66-col 5 line7];

a verifying part that extracts a predetermined element in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate [Hwang, authentication, digital certificate, verifying the authenticity of the document, certificate ID, col 3 line 10-col 4 lines 12-30];

an extracting part that extracts at least one of predetermined elements in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate [Hwang, a dialog box used to obtain document parameters, select a desired document from the chronologically sorted list of records, col 5 line 14-col 6 line 52, Fig 4A-B] and

a determination part that determines an access right based on a value of the predetermined element [Hwang, based on the security levels and document manager can certify the document, col 5 lines 1-8; col 6 lines 3-10];

the predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a project [Hwang, a particular project, col 5 lines 37-50].

9. As per claim 22, Hwang discloses the predetermined elements further include an element allocated for representing a purpose of operation to be operated by the holder

of the personal certificate [Hwang, the threads have names that reflect a theme common to the linked documents, col 5 lines 50-67].

10. As per claim 5, Hwang discloses a web server computer system comprising:

a receiving part that receives a personal certificate [Hwang, certificate for single user, col 4 lines 66-col 5 line7];

a verifying part that verifies the received personal certificate based on a digital signature technique [Hwang, authentication, digital certificate, verifying the authenticity of the document, certificate ID, col 3 line 10-col 4 lines 12-30];

an allocating part that allocates a session identifier when the received personal certificate is successfully verified;

an extracting part that extracts at least one of predetermined elements in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate [Hwang, a dialog box used to obtain document parameters, select a desired document from the chronologically sorted list of records, col 5 line 14-col 6 line 52, Fig 4A-B];

a determination part that determines an access right of a holder of the personal certificate based on a value of the at least one predetermined element when the received personal certificate is successfully verified [Hwang, based on the security levels and document manager can certify the document, col 5 lines 1-8; col 6 lines 3-10]; and

a memory that stores the determined access right associated with the session identifier [Hwang, storage elements 112,114 Fig1; associate documents and certificates for multiple users implemented by various security levels, col 5 lines 1-7],

wherein the predetermined elements includes an element allocated for representing a project [Hwang, a particular project, col 5 lines 37-50].

11. As per claim 6, Hwang discloses the at least one of the predetermined elements is an organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy (i.e.: chronologically order) of the subject name [Hwang, organization and subject name, col 1 lines 43-60; col 5 lines 37-50; chronologically order, col 6 lines 42-52].

12. As per claim 8, Hwang discloses an apparatus for processing a subject name included in a personal certificate, the apparatus comprising:

a receiving part that receives the personal certificate [Hwang, certificate for single user, col 4 lines 66-col 5 line7];

an extracting part that extracts a predetermined element in a hierarchy of a subject name included in the received personal certificate [Hwang, a dialog box used to obtain document parameters, select a desired document from the chronologically sorted list of records, col 5 line 14-col 6 line 52, Fig 4A-B]; and

a determination part that determines an access right at least based on an organization to which a holder belongs and an attribute other than a personal ID represented by a value of the at least one predetermined element [Hwang, based on the

security levels and document manager can certify the document, col 5 lines 1-8; col 6 lines 3-10];

wherein the at least one predetermined elements in the subject name represents a project [Hwang, a particular project, col 5 lines 37-50].

13. As per claim 24, Hwang discloses the at least one predetermined element in a hierarchy of the subject name further represents a purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate [Hwang, the threads have names that reflect a theme common to the linked documents, col 5 lines 50-67].

14. As per claim 9, Hwang discloses the organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents that the holder of the certificate is not a member of an organization represented by the organization name and that the holder cooperates with the organization [Hwang, based on the security levels and document manager can certify the document, col 5 lines 1-8; col 6 lines 3-10].

15. As per claim 10, Hwang discloses the organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents a project name in which the holder takes part [Hwang, the threads have names that reflect a theme common to the linked documents, col 5 lines 50-67].



16. As per claim 11, Hwang discloses the organizational unit name of a predetermined hierarchy of the subject name represents a cooperating organization name which cooperates with an organization represented by the organization name and to which the holder belongs [Hwang,].

17. Claims 16,18 contain the similar limitations set forth of apparatus claim 8. Therefore, claims 16,18 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claim 8.

18. As per claim 23,25, 26, 28, Hwang discloses the at least one predetermined element further represents a purpose of operation to be operated by the holder of the personal certificate [Hwang, the threads have names that reflect a theme common to the linked documents, col 5 lines 50-67].

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner *Thong Vu*, whose telephone number is (571)-272-3904. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00AM-4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Andrew Caldwell*, can be reached at (571) 272-3868. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306

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*Thong Vu*  
*Patent Examiner*  
*Art Unit 2142*

